

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKAA 2445

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: THGA, ETRD, EAID, MILI, PFOR, US, US

SUBJ: PRIME MINISTER DEMIREL IMPLICATED BY PRELIMINARY

PARLIAMENTARY COMMISSIONS IN LOCKHEED AND OTHER IMPROPRIETIES

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. PARLIAMENTARY INVESTIGATING COMMISSION, HEADED BY YILMAZ ALPASLAN (RPP), VOTED APRIL 1 IN FAVOR OF A PARLIAMENTARY INVESTIGATION OF PRIME MINISTER SULEYMAN DEMIREL (JP) AND DEFENSE MINISTER FERIT MELEN (RRP) IN CONNECTION WITH ALLEGED IRREGULARITIES IN PURCHASE OF LOCKHEED PLANES. VOTE WAS 8 (ALL RPP AND DP VOTES)-3(ALL JP VOTES) - 1 (NSP ABSTENTION). REPORT OF ALPASLAN COMMISSION ALSO RECOMMENDED THAT MILITARY PUBLIC PROSECUTOR OPEN INVESTIGATION OF CHIEF OF TURKISH GENERAL STAFF SEMIH SANCAR AS WELL AS THE MILITARY PROSECUTOR WHO RECENTLY ANNOUNCED THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO MILITARY INVOLVEMENT IN LOCKHEED AFFAIR. INVESTIGATION OF GENERAL SANCAR AND MILITARY PROSECUTOR WOULD BE TASK OF MILITARY AUTHORITIES RATHER THAN PARLIAMENTARY COMMISSION. ALPASLAN REPORT, MADE PUBLIC AT PRESS CONFERENCE APRIL 1, ALLEGES SUBSTANTIAL BRIBERY IN CONNECTION WITH SALE OF SECOND GROUP OF F-104'S TO TURKISH AIR FORCE.

2.FURTHER, ACCORDING TO PRESS, REPORT OF FINANCE MINISTRY INSPECTORS TO ALPASLAN COMMISSION ALLEGES THEAT EXPENDITURES OF ALTAY CORPORATION, LOCKHEED AGENT INTURKEY, REQUIRE EXPLANATION.
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INSPECTORS CLAIM ALTAY CORPORATION USED OVER \$102,000 TO "BUY INFULUENCE" IN CONNECTION WITH SALE OF *-104' . IT ADDS THAT ALTAY BILLED LOCKHEED FOR ANOTHER \$183,000 FOR "NECESSARY EXPENSES" BUT USE OF THIS MONEY, TOO, HAS NOT BEEN DETERMINED. FINANCE MINISTRY REPORT IS SAID TO REPUDIATE ALLEGATIONS THAT CYPRUS CRISIS OF 1974 AND AMERICAN ARMS EMBARGO MADE PURCHASE OF LOCKHEED JET FIGHTERS NECESSARY. ALTAY CORPORATION ISALSO SAID

TO HAVE RECEIVED COMMISSION IN CONNECTION WITH TRANSFER OF C-130
TRANSPORTS TO TURKEY, EVEN THOUGH GOT ACQUIRED PLANES BY GRANT.

3. IN FURTHER MOVE AGAINST DEMIREL, A PRELIMINARY JOINT COMMISSION
OF BOTH HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT, HEADED BY MEHMET ALTMISYEDIOGLU (RPP)
AND LONG INVESTIGATING CHARGES THAT PRIME MINISTER'S NEPHEW HAD
MISREPRESENTED NATURE AND VALUE OF FUNITURE EXPORTS IN ORDER
TO OBTAIN TAX REBATES, RECOMMENDED TO PARLIAMENT APRIL 1 THAT
PRIME MINISTER, ALONG WITH TRADE MINISTER HALIL BASOL AND FINANCE
MINISTER YILMAZ ERGENEKON, BE INVESTIGATED BY A PARLIAMENTARY
INTERROGATION COMMISSION TO DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT THE THREE
SHOULD BE INDICTED.
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4. COMMENT. WE DO NOT KNOW AT THIS TIME WHETHER THESE
DEVELOPMENTS, WHILE OBVIOUSLY IN PART POLITICALLY MOTIVATED,
ARE ONLY POLITICAL GESTURES OR ARE THE PRELUDE TO SERIOUS
INVESTIGATIONS.

5. IF PARLIAMENT APPROVES RECOMMENDATION OF ALPASLAN
COMMISSION, NEW INVESTIGATORY COMMISSION WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT
AUTHORITY WOULD PRESUMABLY BE FORMED UNDER ARTICLE 90
OF TURKISH CONSITUTION, THUS ENDING TURKISH DEBATE WITH
US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE OVER TRANSMITTAL OF LOCKHEED
DOCUMENTS TO PARLIAMENT.
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Message Attributes

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Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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